



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

1 August 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR REGION/WING COMMANDERS

SUBJECT: Sale of Alcoholic Beverages are Prohibited

1. Civil Air Patrol (CAP) units near professional ballparks are negotiating contracts with the parks to provide volunteers to staff concession stands. In exchange for providing personnel, the unit gets a percentage of the sales from the concession. Many or all of these ballparks sell beer (alcohol) as part of the concessions business.
2. "Dram shop liability" exists when a seller of alcohol (the "dram shop") is held liable for the harm caused by one who has harmed someone while under the influence of alcohol sold by the seller. By way of example, an injured pedestrian would sue the drunk driver, and also the seller who sold the driver his last drink. The types of injuries inflicted by drunk drivers extend to death and permanent disability such as paralysis and brain injuries. The potential liability exposure is great and CAP has no "dram shop liability insurance coverage." The potential cost, weighed against the potential income from the occasional sale of alcohol, is prohibitive.
3. Therefore, the sale of alcoholic beverages by CAP members is prohibited in order to protect CAP from liability rising from such sales.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Antonio J. Pineda', is positioned above the printed name.

ANTONIO J. PINEDA
Major General, CAP
Commander